

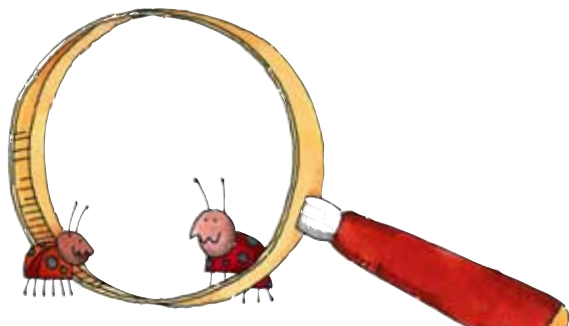
Measuring Outcomes

Measuring outcomes is a major effort throughout the United States to understand how children and families benefit from early intervention services and supports.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) now requires all states to report data on outcomes that help states measure the benefits experienced by a child and family as a result of their involvement in the early intervention system

To meet this new requirement, Maryland has developed comprehensive systems to measure outcomes for families and children who receive early intervention services through the Local Infants and Toddlers Programs. Information reported on these outcomes will help federal, State and local agencies determine the effectiveness of early intervention and improve the delivery of services and supports to young children and their families.

Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSPs) will continue to include individual outcomes to meet the unique needs of children and families.



Your Local Infants and Toddlers Program

Statewide Family Support Services Coordinators

Maryland State Department of Education
Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services
Early Childhood Intervention and Education Branch
200 West Baltimore Street, 9th floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21201
410-767-0261 phone
1-800-535-0182 toll free
410-333-8165 fax



www.marylandpublicschools.org

Nancy S. Grasmick, State Superintendent of Schools

James H. DeGraffenreidt, Jr., President
Maryland State Board of Education

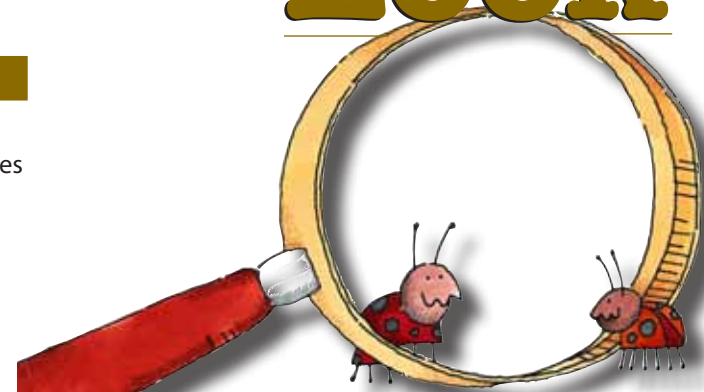
Carol Ann Heath, Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services

Martin O'Malley, Governor

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6/09

Taking A Closer Look



At Child & Family Outcomes

How Maryland Measures The Benefit Of Early Intervention Services and Supports To Children and Families In The Early Intervention System



Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services
Early Childhood Intervention and Education Branch

What Is An Outcome?

An outcome is a benefit experienced by a child and family as a result of services.

Child Outcomes: Progress for all children in early intervention will be measured on three child outcomes. The three outcomes focus on skills and abilities children use to be successful in everyday activities and routines.

The three Child Outcomes are:

1. Children have positive social relationships.
2. Children acquire and use knowledge and skills.
3. Children take action to meet their needs.

Family Outcomes: Parents and caregivers are the primary teachers of young children. The **Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program** is committed to working in partnership with families and caregivers to enhance the development and learning of their child.

The three Family Outcomes are:

1. Families know their rights.
2. Families effectively communicate their children's needs.
3. Families help their child develop and learn.

Gathering Child and Family Outcomes

Family Outcomes

The Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program is committed to providing information and skills beneficial to supporting families and caregivers in the role of helping their child learn.

Once a year, families participating in Local Infants and Toddlers Programs receive a survey developed by the National Center for Special Education Accountability and Monitoring (NCSEAM) and modified to represent families in Maryland. The survey measures the extent to which early intervention services helped families achieve positive family outcomes.

The results of the survey help shape future improvements in early intervention services and supports.

Child Outcomes

The Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program collects child outcome information that is gathered by Local Infants and Toddlers Programs, through the assessment process, when children enter and leave the program. Data on individual children is combined for reporting an overall picture of the progress children make during their participation in early intervention.

Information about the outcomes of individual children is protected by Federal and State confidentiality laws, and will not be reported publicly.

Local Infants and Toddlers Programs are using the Child Outcomes Summary Form to organize the information about a child's development already gathered through the assessment process when children enter and leave the program.

The **Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program** is dedicated to ensuring that all eligible infants and toddlers receive high-quality early intervention services and supports. For more information about measuring child and family outcomes, contact the Family Support Network Coordinator at your Local Infants and Toddlers Program or the Statewide Family Support Services Coordinators at the Maryland State Department of Education.

See back panel for contact information.